

## CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Claim 1 [CANCELLED] An abstract information drop box defined as a cell with the following properties:

- [a] it is addressable via an email Address;
- [b] it can store a variety of structured and unstructured data and data types including Mail, Files, XML and other data formats with data inside cell organized in folders;
- [c] data in the cell can have different storage life cycles;
- [d] data can be stored, retrieved, removed and manipulated using a variety of different protocols;
- [e] it provides application services including event notification, calling registered event handles and forwarding of data; and
- [f] it can be replicated and organized in a hierarchy or other relationships.

Claim 2 [CANCELLED] A plurality of cells as defined in claim 1 and arranged and connected as a grid.

Claim 3.[NEW} A process for adding different type of data and data types into the cell or group of cells, each cell being an electronic drop box which is addressable by an email address, which can store a variety of structured and unstructured data and data types including Mails, Files, XML and other data formats with the data inside cell organized in folders, said process comprising:

- accepting the data and staging data in a staging area;
- determining for each receiving cell the handlers(processing logic) based on the property of the incoming data and receiver cell;
- said handlers operate on the incoming data and store the data into cell according to processing specification of the cell which includes: filtering rules, organization rules, conversion rules, encryption rules;
- said handlers verifying post processing the data to determine whether data processed correctly for all receiver cells and perform the following:
  - [a] on successful completion, close the transaction and perform cleanup.

[b] if temporary or retry-able errors are found scheduling the retry operation with the DPU; and

[c] on permanent errors, log the errors and close the transaction and perform cleanup.

**Claim 4 [NEW]** The process of claim 3 wherein information in the cell and grid can be read and manipulated by various privileged users and processes from one or more applications.

**Claim 5.[NEW]** A process having the ability to manipulate the cells by privileged users and processing using an application to:

to split cell;

to merge two or more cells into one;

to purge cell or cells; and

to control the life-span or retention of data within the cell.

Respectfully submitted,

*Theodore Jay*

Theodore Jay Reg17071

16 N. Chatsworth Ave

Suite 600

Larchmont, NY 10538

Tel 914 834 3769

Email [tjay425772@aol.com](mailto:tjay425772@aol.com)

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